IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN
JAIPUR BENCH
S.B. Civil Writ Petition No.3493/06
Gopal Lal Vs. State of Raj. & Anr.

30.04.2007

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohammad Rafiq

Shri V.S. Gurjar for petitioner.
Shri B.S. Chhaba, Deputy Government Advocate for State.
Shri M.C. Jain for respondent.

The petitioner has in this writ petition challenged the order dated 25.11.05 passed by the respondents by which he has been declared disqualified on the post of Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Naikalan on account of the fact that he was not eligible to contest the election to the aforesaid office being disqualified as per one of the clauses of Section 19(l) of the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 and has prayed that the same be quashed and set aside.

Controversy raised in this case is

squarely covered by the decision of Larger Bench in the case of Smt. Sameera Bano Vs. State of Raj. & Ors, D.B. Special Appeal (W) No.236/06, decided on 2.4.2007 wherein it was held as under:-

> "that a pre-election disqualification can be adjudicated only in an election petition before the District Judge under Section 43 of the Act read with rule 80 of the Election Rules and cannot be adjudicated by the authority under rule 23 of the Rules."

Following the view taken by the larger bench in Smt. Sameera Bano, supra, the writ petition deserves to be allowed and is accordingly allowed. The impugned order dated 25.11.05 is quashed and set aside and the petitioner is held entitled to continue to hold the office of Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Naikalan.

(Mohammad Rafiq),J.

Rs/-